JAP7 Rec'd PCT/PTO 08 AUG 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

Customer No.: 035811

Examiner

Serial No.

: 10/574,637

Filed

: April 5, 2006

PCT No. PCT Filed : PCT/JP2004/015025 : October 12, 2004

Inventors

: Kenji Kousaka

Docket No.: SSC-06-1067 Confirmation No.:

Title

: Morihiko Imada : METHOD FOR CONTROLLING

: BRIGHT ANNEALING FURNACE

Dated: August 8, 2006

Mail Stop PCT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATION

37 C.F.R. §1.10

Express Mail Label No.:

EV 548524924 US

Date of Deposit:

August 8, 2006

Description of Contents:

Postcard, Transmittal Letter and copy of Written

Opinion dated July 6, 2006

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We enclose a copy of an English translation dated July 6, 2006 of the Written Opinion of the

International Searching Authority for the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

T. Daniel Christenbury

Reg. No. 31,750

TDC/cc

(215) 656-3381